(e) *Financial arrangement*

The entire cost on training of teachers of WILL classes, including their TA and Stipends, would be borne by Government of India out of ICDS funds.

Rail tankers for Gujarat

964. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the railways have received any request from Gujarat Government for providing tanker wagons (rail tankers) for the supply of drinking water to the drought affected areas of Gujarat and Saurashtra, if so, what is the response of Government thereto; and

(b) what is the number of rail tankers per day the Railways are likely to spare for providing drinking water in scarcity hit areas of Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir. Hence question of response does not arise.

(b) Does not arise.

Waiting list for phone connections

965. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news item that appeared in Indian Express, dated 16-1-1987 to the effect that more than one million people are on waiting list for phone connections;

(b) whether Government have recently drawn up any plan to improve communication facilities in the country; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof and by when the proposed plan is to be implemented and to what extent the waiting list for new phone connections in different parts of the country will be covered?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The details of 7th Plan in this respect are given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

Physical Targets proposed to be achieved during the Seventh Plan period are to add the following facilities:—

(i) Provision of about 11 lakhs direct exchange lines;

(ii) Provision of about 9000 long distance public telephones;

This will cover the demand as under:—

Unit	Meeting the demand for the period upto
Metro Telephone Distts.	1-4-1984
Major Telephone Distts.	1-4-1984
Minor Telephone Distts.	1-4-1985
CIRCLES	
MAX I Exchanges*	1-4-1986
MAX II Exchanges**	1-4-1987
MAX III Exchanges*** & MANNUAL EXCHANGES.	1-4-1990

These objectives cover average demand for a telephone unit and the actual dates will vary somewhat from area to area.

* Larger exchanges of more than 2000 lines

** Medium sized exchanges from 200 to 2000 lines

*** Small exchanges of 25, 50 & 100 lines.

Pregnancy deaths in the country

966. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news item

captioned "Five lakhs pregnancy deaths every year" which appeared in the Hindustan Times of the 27th January, 1987;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether the Government with the help of State Governments have ever assessed the number of deaths that occurred every year due to pregnancy;

(d) if not, whether Government proposed to maintain the records of such incidents; and

(e) what other steps Government propose to take to provide guidance to the mothers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) and (b) The Government is aware of the news item. 5 lakh pregnancy deaths referred in it, is an estimate for the entire world. The Government intend to reduce the maternal mortality and with that objective, expansion of existing health infrastructure training of manpower, provision of antenatal, natal and postnatal care, adoption of risk approach, health education prophylaxis against nutritional anaemia, immunisation with Tetanus Toxoid. Expansion of MTP (Medical Termination of Pregnancy) facilities and supplementary nutrition are being under taken.

(c) and (d) A precise estimate of number of deaths due to pregnancy in the country is not available. However, according to a sample survey of causes of death (rural) by Registrar General of India, the maternal deaths as percentages of all female deaths are 2.4, 2.7 and 2.2 in 1982, 1983 and 1984 respectively. In the urban areas the estimated percentages are 2.8,2.2 and 2.2 in 1981, 1982 and 1983 respectively State-wise estimates are not available.

(e) Health and nutrition education of the mother will be intensified through all channels of communication.

Shipping Policy

967. SHRI K. VASUDEVA PANICKER: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any shipping policy to help the shipping industry; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (b) Industrial Credit & Investment Corporation of India (ICICI) and financial institutions/banks have set up a new company called Shipping Credit & Investment Corporation of India (SCICI) which would provide financial assistance to the shipping companies in the private sector on the basis of the viability of their proposals. In the case of sick companies the matter would be considered on a case to case basis and suitable rehabilitation package would be evolved by the SCICI if the company was found to be potentially viable. Financial assistance would be provided broadly on the rates hitherto being charged by the Shipping Development Fund Committee.

Commercial Pilots

968. SHRI K. VASUDEVA PANICKER: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) what is the annual requirement of commercial pilots to man the planes of various airlines in the country;

(b) what are the names of the institutes which train pilots alongwith the number of persons trained annually; and

(c) the steps taken to meet the growing needs of pilots in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.